

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract of the application as follows:

The invention relates to a serial data bus including~~(10) comprising~~ a data line ~~(12)~~ for transmitting electrical signals representing bit states and a plurality of multi-master subscribers ~~(14, 16)~~ between which messages can be exchanged via the data line ~~(12)~~ in an event-driven manner according to the broadcast principle. At least two subscribers ~~(14, 16)~~ have a transceiver head ~~(18)~~, inductively connected to the data line ~~(12)~~, via which contactless electrical signals ~~(50)~~ are picked up from the data line or transferred thereto. An amplifier ~~(36)~~ is galvanically connected to the data line ~~(12)~~ and is adapted to receive electrical signals ~~(48)~~ that have been inductively transferred by the at least two subscribers ~~(14, 16)~~ to the data line ~~(12)~~ and to feed them back to the data line ~~(12)~~ once amplified. Due to its inductive connection, the data bus is especially low-maintenance and also suitable for hazardous surroundings. The contactless connection makes the data bus ~~(10)~~ especially suitable for use in transport systems in production engineering and generally for use in systems having~~comprising~~ parts that are mobile relative one another and between which a data exchange is desired.